

zone to the nearest base. From there he was shipped off to the Philippines, where he was confined to a body cast for about a week before being transferred to an army hospital in Japan. Gary spent the next three months recovering in Japan, with the help of his younger brother who, in a twist of fate, had been stationed as a medic at the very same place.

Eventually, Gary returned to Fort Louis in Tacoma, Washington, where he spent almost a year learning how to walk again. Once he recovered, Gary was medically discharged from the army with 60% disability. He returned to Billings, went into business with his father, and spent the next 43 years in the trucking industry.

Gary has been married to his wife Ellen, a fellow Billings native, for 42 years and together they raised their son Christopher, who Gary adopted when he was just three years old. Christopher and his wife Gale now have two sons of their own, making Gary a proud grandfather to Christopher Murphree—who served in Afghanistan as a member of the National Guard—and Donovan Arnold, a boy scout whose troop conducted a beautiful flag ceremony here today.

The family all still lives in Billings, where Gary volunteers at his local VFW post—Mark Curtis #6774. He and a group of fellow veterans perform flag ceremonies and 21 Gun Salutes at military funerals throughout the county. Gary has performed at nearly two dozen military funerals since joining the group in January.

I now have the profound honor of presenting Gary with his own set of military honors. For his courage and valor in battle, Gary Booth received the:

Purple Heart
Bronze Star Medal
Good Conduct Medal
Combat Medic Badge 1st award
Republic of Vietnam Campaign Ribbon w/Device
Vietnamese Service Medal with 1 bronze service star
National Defense Service Medal

Gary, these medals serve as a small token of our country's appreciation for your incredible service and profound sacrifice.

You are a true American hero. Thank you so much for your service.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:27 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2840. An act to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to

authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds for active shooter training, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3394. An act to amend the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 to allow for the use of certain assets of foreign persons and entities to satisfy certain judgments against terrorist parties, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4768. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions.

H.R. 5421. An act to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to apply the exemption from State regulation of securities offerings to securities listed on a national security exchange that has listing standards that have been approved by the Commission.

H.R. 5658. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 142. Concurrent resolution supporting the bid of Los Angeles, California, to bring the 2024 Summer Olympic Games back to the United States and pledging the cooperation of Congress with respect to that bid.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4639. An act to reauthorize the Office of Special Counsel, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide modifications to authorities relating to the Office of Special Counsel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4768. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the nature of judicial review of agency interpretations of statutory and regulatory provisions; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 5421. An act to amend the Securities Act of 1933 to apply the exemption from State regulation of securities offerings to securities listed on a national security exchange that has listing standards that have been approved by the Commission; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 5658. An act to amend title 5, United States Code, to codify the Presidential Innovation Fellows Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 10. An act to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4465. An act to decrease the deficit by consolidating and selling Federal buildings and other civilian real property, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4487. An act to reduce costs of Federal real estate, improve building security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4901. An act to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. VITTER, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

Report to accompany S. 2850, A bill to amend the Small Business Act to provide for expanded participation in the microloan program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 114-301).

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 1656. A bill to provide for additional resources for the Secret Service, and to improve protections for restricted areas (Rept. No. 114-302).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BURR, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 3173. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a 90-day EHR reporting period for the determination of whether an eligible professional or eligible hospital is a meaningful EHR user and to remove the all-or-nothing approach to meaningful use, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KING:
S. 3174. A bill to establish an Interagency Council on Workforce Attachment to promote effective and coordinated workforce attachment strategies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WYDEN:
S. 3175. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create a refundable first-time homebuyer tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN:
S. 3176. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance efforts to address antibiotic resistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself and Mr. NELSON):
S. 3177. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax-exempt financing of certain government-owned buildings; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS):
S. 3178. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit hospitals in all-urban States to be considered Medicare dependent hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 3179. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and extend the credit for carbon dioxide sequestration; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. HEITKAMP:
S. 3180. A bill to improve hiring and human resources flexibilities for Federal agencies in geographic areas affected by unique situations or circumstances, including remoteness, that cause recruitment and retention challenges, and to provide agencies experiencing such challenges with a toolkit of resources to overcome those challenges; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.